## Message Text

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**ORIGIN NEA-10** 

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 DHA-02 AGR-05

OMB-01 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 PM-04

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /089 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:PKBULLEN:PDW
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AID/FFP:AMERKER
EB/FFD:BMACMULLAN
D/HA:FSIEVERTS
AGR:HNORTON
OMB:JBINNENDIJK

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P R 230207Z APR 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS AMEMBASSY CAIRO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK AMEMBASSY LONDON

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FOR BROWN FROM ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, LE

SUBJECT: AID TO LEBANON

1. WOULD LIKE TO BRING YOU UP TO DATE ON OUR THINKING RE VARIOUS TYPES OF U.S. AID TO LEBANON BEFORE THE NEXT ELEMENT OF ASSISTANCE IS ANNOUNCED.

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2. MEDICAL AND ICRC. WE ARE, OF COURSE, CONTINUING AIR

SHIPMENT OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES AS NEEDED TO SUPPORT BEIRUT HOSPITALS THROUGH AUB CHANNEL. ALSO, ON APRIL 2, WE MADE A \$500,000 CONTRIBUTION TO THE ICRC FOR ITS RE-IEF ACTIVITIES IN LEBANON

- 3. PL-480. WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER MAKING FOODSTUFFS AVAILABLE UNDER PL-480 TITLE I (ASSUMING USUAL MARKETING REQUIREMENTS--UMR--AND OTHER TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS CAN BE MET) WHEN SITUATION STABILIZED ENOUGH SO THAT GOL IS FUNCTIONING WITH SOME PROSPECT OF PERMANENCE. (THIS WOULD PRESUMABLY BE AT SOME POINT AFTER PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION AND FORMATION NEW CABINET.) WE WOULD ENVISAGE PL-480 ASSISTANCE AS A KIND OF VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN STABILIZED SITUATION AND IN REGIME'S STAYING POWER. WHILE WE HAVE NOT YET GOTTEN INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENT ON PL-480 PROGRAM FOR LEBANON, STATE WOULD REQUEST A PROGRAM IN FIVE TO TEN MILLION DOLLAR RANGE.
- 4. SPECIAL LEGISLATION: STATE HAS FORWARDED TO OMB REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LEGISLATION IN FY 1976 TO PROVIDE \$20 MILLION FOR LEBANESE RELIEF AND REHABILITATION. OMB HAS NOT YET MADE A DECISION ON THE MATTER. IF APPROVED, WE ENVISAGE FORWARDING IT TO CONGRESS UNDER COVER OF A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE. MUCH OF THAT AMOUNT (ABOUT \$12.5 MILLION) WOULD GO AS A CONTRIBUTION TO THE UN SYG'S APPEAL FOR \$50 MILLION.
- 5. WE ARE SEEKING IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO MAKE AVAILABLE FIVE MILLION DOLLARS AS AN INTERIM AND PARTIAL RESPONSE TO SECGEN WALDHEIM'S APPEAL PENDING APPROVAL AND PASSAGE OF THE \$20 MILLION LEGISLATION. ALTHOUGH MUCH OF THE FUND MIGHT NOT BE SPENT UNTIL THE SITUATION STABILIZES FURTHER, THIS INTERIM RESPONSE SHOULD HELP WALDHEIM IN SECURING RESPONSES FROM OTHER DONORS.
- 6. OUR APPROACH ADMITTEDLY IS PIECE-MEAL SO FAR, BUT SEEMS APPROPRIATE IN LIGHT OF UNCERTAINTIES IN LEBANESE SITUATION. BELIEVE WE MUST PUT TOGETHER WHATEVER WE CAN NOW, AND PLAN ON HAVING A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE AT APPROPRIATE TIME PROVIDE THE POLITICAL REINFORCEMENT FOR STABILIZING SITUATION IN LEBANON. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR CONFIDENTIAL

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VIEWS ON THE ABOVE. KISSINGER

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TAGS: EAID, LE To: BEIRUT

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